INTERVIEW WITH FRANK ROSENTHAL

This interview took place at Babe's Flowers, 23 North Main, Sheridan, Wyoming, on April ~~10~~ 8, 1988.

He was born in 1941 and attended University of Wyoming from 1959 to 1963 majoring at first in engineering and then got a degree in business administration. He later got a degree in electrical (radio) engineering from a Denver college. Upon graduation he returned to Buffalo, due to lack of jobs elsewhere and worked in any one of his father's business ventures. He ran the two theaters owned by his father for six or seven years (he also worked there as a young man from seven to twelve years of age) and then left to work at his father's radio station in Sheridan for thirteen years. He has been at Babe's flowers for twelve years, a business run by his wife's family. When his father had a heart attack, he found that he couldn't assume his father's interests in the radio station and still work in the flower shop, so he sold the station.

On the subject of his Jewish background during his childhood, he noted that the nearest community was in Billings, but distance made travel prohibitive. He and his brother went to the Episcopal Church at the request of his parents in order to have somekind of religious training. More specifically, they were invited by a female church member to attend Sunday school at the Episcopal Church. What he learned about Judaism he picked up from his father and relatives, all of whom were orthodox Jews. Frank's wife is Catholic and he attends the Catholic Church. His brother Jack is active in the Casper Jewish community.

About his father, Sam Rosenthal, Frank said that he was casual, thoughtful, served and an introspective man. He was also a successful businessman. His father took exception to the many orthodox concepts as being too difficult, strict or inappropriate, so his father didn't feel have bad feelings about the lack of Jewish life in Buffalo.

On Jewish life in Sheridan in general, Frank said that the problem was that there were notmore than a half a dozen Jews in Sheridan. Jews were more of a minority than blacks. Other Jews in Sheridan include Dr. Thickman, Dr. Wohl and Allan Wachtel.